

Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Equatorial Guinea

U.S. Ambassador Accused of Supporting Coup BR1909092095 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 18 Sep 95 pp 4-5

[Report by Alfonso Armada: "Moto Planned Coup Against Obiang"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Madrid — "Severo Moto was involved in a coup hatched with U.S. Ambassador to Equatorial Guinea John Bennett. A soldier was to fire at President Teodoro Obiang, taking advantage of the 12 October 1994 military parade." The revelations of a Western diplomat holding a key position in Guinean affairs have been confirmed — with respect to Moto's role — by leaders of international bodies connected with Guinea and by Spanish administration sources who admit that they received information from Malabo but treated them with caution because they never believed "that Moto and his supporters had real ability to stage a coup. It was not very organized." Moto yesterday emphatically denied what he described as "terrible and stupid accusations."

At the first signs that Moto — sentenced to 28 years' imprisonment for "attacking the state and the form of government" — was slipping down a dangerous path — that is, the preparation of a coup — Spanish diplomats warned him of the mistake. "After having personally experienced an attempt such as that of 23 February [1981], Spain was in no position to advise anybody to do anything similar," argued a diplomat, who accused the Spanish news media of "having artificially created a hero, a supposed Mandela with feet of clay." All the sources have urgently requested that their names not be revealed. [passage omitted]

All the sources consulted agree that the coup which was being prepared "was a real botched job, without real means for being carried out." The Armed Forces' traditional parade was not held 12 October 1994 because Obiang was afraid that the conspirators would take advantage of the occasion to stage the coup.

"In fact, there were two putsches under way: one by Moto and the other by Obiang's interior minister, Julio Ndong Ela Mangue, who had begun conspiratorial moves against the regime's leadership," a Western diplomat stated. "It was beyond any doubt," he added, "that Moto and Bennett were in cahoots. What has not become clear is whether Moto contacted Julio Ndong or whether the U.S. ambassador, dismissed from his post because of his differences with the State Department, was putting the cat among the pigeons in the Interior Ministry itself."

Human Viscera

Sources close to the Spanish Government assert that "in Malabo two circumstances combined. Bennett was too impetuous and immoderate, and created a real storm in Malabo when he told [Spanish] External Radio that Obiang ate human viscera. Moto found no response to his aspirations when he visited the United States."

In October 1994, the atmosphere in Malabo was especially heavy. Letters reached the accredited embassies from Madrid, signed by a phantom Social Democratic Party, calling on the embassies to take their nationals out of the country because the party was preparing to stage a coup agreed on with a foreign power. People belonging to Moto's close circle let slip in Western circles in the Guinean capital that it was the regime's own Interior Ministry which was behind that move. "Curiously, the o's in the typewritten letters received by the embassies had the same typographical error as the documents sent out by Moto" — a suspicious coincidence.

In August 1992, the Guinean police intercepted a letter from Moto to one of his supporters in Guinea in which he assured him that Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez had promised him support, including military support. In the diplomatic sources' opinion, what Moto has tried to do at all costs is to "damage relations between Spain and Guinea to the utmost. Moto's strategy was to provoke an action by the regime's hawks against vital Spanish interests — or a violent action against the voluntary workers — which would force a direct intervention by Madrid. Moto presented himself as a replacement president."

This squares with the explosive statements by Progress Party organization Secretary Agapita Ona, who at the end of last February, after eight days in prison, asserted that Moto was preparing a coup in which the Spanish aircraft carrier Principe de Asturias and U.S. troops would take part. It was to be suspected that Ona had been tortured and forced to tell a silly story.

It was not, as it appeared and was reported at that time, a fabrication concocted by the regime. It was a conspiracy which was deemed crazy in Spanish circles, as indeed it was, but which, according to international observers, was in line with "a strategy devised by Moto and probably inspired by Bennett (who had already quit his post in Malabo): To stage a democratic coup which Madrid and Washington would immediately support and thus end Obiang's dictatorship, following a policy of fait accomplis."

Somebody who has long followed Moto's career asserts that "he acts in Spain like a Western leader, while in Malabo he is absolutely tribal." According to this

observer, "a sector of the People's Party, fascinated by French "grandeur," advocates adopting a neocolonial stance. That sector is the one which would support Moto if he staged a coup." The diplomat, who remains closely linked to the situation in the former colony, emphasized: "Moto is behind all the crises which have burdened the democratization process, especially since he returned to Guinea. Moto constantly dramatizes the image of Guinea, which, of course, remains a dictatorship, and therefore plays with the idea that he is going to be killed. Damaging relations and presenting himself as the solution; that is Moto's strategy, which has been pandered to by some Spanish political sectors, especially within the People's Party." It is a sector which did not view favorably the mediation work of former Minister Adolfo Suarez and current People's Party Executive Committee member Rodolfo Martin Villa, who, with the Spanish Government's approval, interceded directly with Obiang for Moto to be released. Martin Villa stated vesterday that he knows nothing and that it seems to him "not very credible" that Moto was involved in that trouble.

"Since he has little popular support, Moto has always toyed with a coup in order to attain power. Basically, he is a carbon copy of Obiang himself, whose information minister he was, shortly after he attained power after overthrowing his uncle, Francisco Macias," stress opposition sources, who say that they have "endured him in silence" in the Joint Opposition Platform.

Following the near severing of relations, with the expulsion of Diego Sanchez Bustamante, the [Spanish] consul in Bata, in December 1993, a proposal for rapprochement was received from the Guinean authorities. which had concocted several false reports to the point of giving them a semblance of reality, such as that the Principe de Asturias was carrying out maneuvers in order to pick up Guinea's foreign community, while there was a rumor that there were mercenaries training in the Canary Islands. The Guinean ambassador asked what Spain's demands were. They were clear: Normalizing relations, not a single further incident, an improvement in the human rights situation, and a serious democratization process with fair municipal elections, the conducting of a census with the opposition's participation, and renewal of the electoral law.

Alejandro Artucio, the UN special rapporteur for Guinea, later visited the country, and his report proved quite favorable to the regime. The two visits were negotiated trilaterally, between the Guinean and Spanish Governments and Artucio himself. "A truce and the guarantees for holding elections were demanded."

This source specified that "U.S. Ambassador Bennett was opposed to the negotiations, and tried to sabotage them. Moto proposed to Nigeria, through Bennett, that it keep the border oil wells in return for support for the coup. In the spring of last year, a space of time was agreed in Malabo with Bennett in order to demonstrate to him that course of negotiation was the best. Bennett, who remained in charge of Washington's embassy until August of last year, even lent his official car to oppositionists so that they could go and tell Artucio how bad everything was."

Independent observers who were able to meet with the detainees in Malabo's Black Beach prison and attend the trial in the Marfil movie theater in the Equatorial Guinean capital, expressed their personal conviction that it was not a government frame-up but that there was a rudimentarily prepared coup. The imprisoned military personnel themselves acknowledged that they received instructions from Moto's Progress Party when they conducted a survey among sectors of the Army and the security forces on two matters: How they would react to a coup and what would be their opinion on Moto's becoming head of state. This senior international official acknowledges that the U.S. ambassador had "a very unorthodox way of acting and could not last there, especially after falling out completely with the regime after distributing antigovernment propaganda on a visit which he paid to the interior."

The UN special rapporteur stated that those detained because of the plot against Obiang suffered severe torture, were subjected to arduous prison conditions, and were tried without any guarantee and given excessively severe sentences.

A Spanish Government source, who, like almost all the sources in this story, prefers to remain anonymous, emphasized one fact: "The Spanish Government has never had a favorite candidate. Moto has always been a party's candidate, and when he has been in prison, we have done our utmost to help him. Our only candidate is democracy and the rule-of-law state." "Those Accusations Will Kill Me"

Severo Moto, Progress Party of Equatorial Guinea chairman, aged 52, yesterday flatly denied all the reports implicating him in a putschist plot to overthrow Equatorial Guinean President Teodoro Obiang. "They are terrible and stupid accusations, and form part of the dynamic set under way against me. They are accusations which were also leveled against me at the Malabo trial (last April) and which could not be proved."

With respect to the links with U.S. Ambassador to Guinea John Bennett, Moto asserted: "Nobody can accuse me of having had contacts with the embassies

accredited in Guinea in order to prepare a coup. That is untrue. My contacts were perfectly normal. Those accusations are the easiest way to kill me. As my political stature grows, my enemies are firing with heavier artillery. Those attacks come from those who are trying to derail the high speed political train which I am riding in order secure Guinea's freedom. As I grow, they use new weapons against me, but nobody can implicate me in a coup."

Moto flatly denied that Spanish Foreign Ministry officials warned him that he would not receive the slightest support if he took the path of putschism. "The only relations that I have had with the Spanish Government were requests for them to help resolve the situation in Guinea. I asked them for protection and they told me that they could not give me it." And he stressed: "I do not accept anybody's advising me on the path which I should take." He emphasized that the only thing that he has tried to do through his party — the Progress Party — is to "change the situation experienced by Guinea by democratic means."

Moto denied that he initiated a survey in military circles on their attitude to a coup and his installation as head of state. "If some military personnel conducted that survey, it was on their own initiative, without anybody — either I myself or in my party — suggesting anything to them. Nobody can say without lying that my career has not been clean. When I returned to Guinea in 1992, I took an offer of peace and dialogue, and the only response that I found was death threats, attacks, and imprisonment, and all for struggling for democracy."

Opposition Leader Denies Role in Coup Plot

LD1809170795 Madrid TVE Internacional Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Equatorial Guinean opposition and the party of President Obiang [the Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea] are claiming victory in the municipal elections held 17 September in the former Spanish colony. The opposition groups have said numerous irregularities occurred in these first democratic elections since 1968 in which all parties took part except the Bubi movement, which boycotted them. This group condemned the arrest yesterday of 11 of its activists. From Madrid, Severo Moto, one of the main leaders of the opposition, today accused Spanish and Equatorial Guinean diplomatic circles of implicating him in an alleged coup plot.

[Correspondent Jose A. Perez Pinar] The percentage of votes obtained by the Joint Opposition Platform is growing as the first unofficial details are made known, supplied to the EFE news agency by opposition

sources. The results are similar in the different electoral municipalities and districts. In Malabo, the opposition has 60 percent and President Obiang's party has 30 percent. The coordinator of the opposition platform, Placido Miko, attributes the forecast victory to the Equatorial Guinean people, who were able to get round the fraudulent maneuvers of the ruling party. [passage omitted]

Also criticized was the refusal to grant permits to foreign news media, among them Spanish television, and the small number [10] of international observers allowed to supervise the progress of the elections. All this, together with the alleged theft of ballot boxes by the police and the arrest of opposition supervisers, leads one to fear that the official results will bear little relation to reality.

[Correspondent Pilar Requena] In Madrid, Severo Moto, president of the opposition Progress Party of Equatorial Guinea, expressed his great pleasure at the way in which his people took part in these elections, but he also said that because of the irregularities, the opposition would contest them.

Speaking to Television Espanola, Severo Moto denied the report in the daily newspaper EL PAIS in which diplomatic sources implicate him in a coup plot to overthrow Equatorial Guinean President Teodoro Obiang.

[Begin Moto recording] I emphatically deny any talk of a coup d'etat, not to mention one linked to American Ambassador John Bennett. [end recording]

The Equatorial Guinean opposition leader also said that he knew perfectly well who was behind these accusations. According to Severo Moto, it is Spanish and Equatorial Guinean diplomatic circles whose intention is to discredit him and prevent him from returning to Equatorial Guinea. Moto, who was sentenced in April in Equatorial Guinea for treason in a trial without legal safeguards and pardoned in August by Obiang, also said that he now feels less safe in Spain than among his people in Equatorial Guinea.

President Congratulates Electorate on Turnout

AB1909121095 Bata Radio Nacional de Guinea Ecuatorial Network in Spanish 0600 GMT 19 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The country's municipal elections took place in a calm, peaceful, and tranquil atmosphere, and in a spirit of democracy. Equatorial Guineans have democratically elected officials of their respective municipal councils. [passage omitted]

The smooth running of the balloting is a reflection of the fact that Equatorial Guineans have been progressively

assimilating the democratic teachings prescribed by President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo with the objective of continuing the development of the country's political, economic, social, and cultural sectors.

The ruling Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea, the Social Democratic Union, the Socialist Party of Equatorial Guinea, the National Democratic Union, the Popular and Social Democratic Convergence, the Popular Union, as well as the Social Democratic Convergence, the Progress Party of Equatorial Guinea, and the Progressive Democratic Alliance, which form the Joint Opposition Platform, have contested the elections for the country's mayoralties and city councils after 15 days of intensive electoral campaigning.

Prime Minister Silvestre Siale Bileka and Mrs. Bileka cast their votes at the polling station installed at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food, just like other dignitaries who voted throughout the length and breadth of our capital and urban areas.

For his part, President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, after voting at the No. 1 polling station at the Ministry of Culture, Tourism, and Francophone Affairs, had this to say to Equatorial Guineans.

[Begin Mbasogo recording] This is an important day for Equatorial Guineans who are deciding the future of their city councils. It is the right of all Equatorial Guineans to demonstrate their determination for the development of their municipal councils. I can only congratulate the people for their massive participation, which is proof of their public spiritedness. They have begun to assimilate democratic principles. There is no need for Equatorial Guineans to abstain as in past elections, because a citizen who fails to participate in elections loses an important right, notably his right of citizenship, for no citizen can afford to sit on the fence while his country's destiny is at stake. [passage omitted including indistinct portion] [end recording]

Opposition Claims Irregularities in Poll

AB1809120595 London BBC World Service in English 0615 GMT 18 Sep 95

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Ofeibea Quist-Arcton]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] First to Equatorial Guinea, and before polling stations closed there yesterday, the opposition was already crying foul with charges against the government of irregularities. Equatorial Guineans were voting at local level, but President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo and his critics are treating the municipal election as a preliminary to next year's presidential polls. On the line from the capital Malabo,

Miriam Oyana of the opposition Convergence for Social Democracy party gave the latest information she had on interim election results in Malabo, but first she spelled out their concerns about the municipal vote.

[Begin recording] [Oyana] Our complaints are that some people had multiple electoral card, and the fact that we did not have the ink to fingerprint the people who already may put their ballot in, people were able to vote twice or three times in different table. [sentence as heard]

[Quist-Arcton] So are you saying that you think whatever the results are of the municipal elections in Equatorial Guinea that they will not be free and fair?

[Oyana] Well, they were free at a point, but the thing is the government is trying to do everything they could to obstaculize [preceding word as heard] the election. Even though we have these complaints, but for now the results we have 80 percent, at least 80 percent of the results are in favor of the opposition.

[Quist-Arcton] According to who, Mrs. Oyana?

[Oyana] You know, the opposition members, and the government members, and other independent parties, they have their observer in each table. So what we have been doing is that each one of our people, they will come in with their results, then we mark them down. They are supposed to be the official results because every member of the electorate table they have to sign.

[Quist-Arcton] Now, have you actually taken your complaints to the electoral commission yet?

[Oyana] Right now, no. Right now, no, because we are still waiting for the results, and you know right now we are at, I think, 0145 AM.

[Quist-Arcton] What will happen if the opposition is successful in these municipal elections?

[Oyana] Right now, we cannot say. It is a either or situation, because this is the first time, let's say that, the opposition parties agree to go into the election. So right now, we are optimistic that the government will be able to take their defeat, because, you know, ultimately the nation, the people in the country, have the say as to who they choose to run things in the country.

[Quist-Arcton] Now, the opposition boycotted Equatorial Guinea's first multiparty parliamentary elections back in 1993 and has since been very vocal in its criticism of the government in Equatorial Guinea, but what changes do you think that the opposition could bring to the country, which is after all so economically poor?

[Oyana] Right now, our main concern is that city hall is to go to be independent from the government. [sentence as heard] So, what we are going to do is to try to fight so that the municipalities are independent from the government. Right now, in Equatorial Guinea, the government mostly runs everything, so that's our first priority; and then we think with this municipal election victory, even though it's a small step, but we think that it's the first step to do away with dictatorship. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

Rwanda

Kagame, French Minister on Refugees, Tribunal

LD1809220595 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 2030 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Xavier Emmanuelli, secretary of state for humanitarian aid, is in Rwanda. This is the first official visit to Kigali by a French minister since last year's genocide. The Rwandan Government is now led by the Tutsis. France has been accused of giving military support to the former Hutu regime.

Xavier Emmanuelli today met the strong man of Kigali, General Kagame. Our special correspondent Yves Izard reports:

[Izard] The meeting between Xavier Emmanuelli and General Paul Kagame, the defense minister who is also the vice president of Rwanda, marks a watershed in the relations between France and Rwanda.

Paul Kagame is the strong man of the regime, and he showed it this morning when he curtly recalled the past to the French minister: France made some mistakes in the past, he said. He added that it was now necessary to look ahead, while respecting the genocide. In other words, he is willing to hold talks with France, among other things about the repatriation of Rwandan refugees, but this should not be an imposed condition.

Xavier Emmanuelli got the message. He repeated that there was indeed a duty to remember the genocide, but also a duty to promote justice. While he did not impose any conditions, the French minister followed the same line: national reconciliation and a new start in Rwanda can only take place after the trial of those behind the genocide. In concrete terms, an international tribunal must be encouraged to punish crimes against humanity.

Zaire

Government Bans Rally by Opposition Party

LD1809225895 Paris Radio France International in French 2130 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] In Zaire the government has banned a demonstration scheduled by the Radical Opposition for this Friday [22 September]. It was supposed to be a peaceful rally outside the French Embassy in Kinshasa. It had been initiated by [former Premier] Etienne Tshisekedi's Union for Democracy and Social Progress. The authorities have put forward the inconvenience it would cause in the residential district of the Zairean capital where there are several diplomatic representations.

Opposition To Stage Sit-In Despite Ban

AB1909094095 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0730 GMT 19 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] There will be no sit-in organized by the Zairian radical opposition in front of the French Embassy in Kinshasa. The mayor of Kinshasa banned the demonstration that was scheduled to take place there on 22 September. The radical opposition, led by Etienne Tshisekedi wa Mulumba, wants to denounce the territorial immunity granted to the French Embassy in Kinshasa. According to a letter sent to Zairian authorities, the Zairian radical opposition also wants to protest against France's interference in Zairian internal affairs.

The Kinshasa authorities, while recognizing the organization's rights to free circulation, gathering, and association, said that these rights should be exercised in the strict respect of the law, public order, and moral standards.

The Zairian radical opposition says it has no intention to obey the order given by the authorities. Frederic Kibase Maliba, current chairman of the Sacred Union of the Radical Opposition, confirmed that the sit-in will take place on 22 September. He said the sit-in is in line with the spirit of the Transition Constitution. The Zairian (?Interior) Ministry has said it will take the necessary measures when the time comes.

Official Gives Deadline for Refugee Repatriation

AB1809125895 Paris AFP in English 1115 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Goma, Zaire, 18 Sep (AFP) — Zaire is determined to send home the hundreds of thousands of Rwandan Hutu refugees from camps in the east of the country despite a drop in the voluntary repatriation rate in recent days, the governor of the eastern Zairian Kivu region said Monday [18 September].

Christophe Moto Mupenda stressed that all the refugees would have to return to Rwanda by the end of the year, despite the severe blow dealt to the repatriation process by the massacre a week ago of at least 110 people across the border in northwest Rwanda.

"The last Rwandan refugee must leave Zaire at the latest by December 31," Mupenda said, reiterating Kinshasa's demand that the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) ensure its voluntary transportation programme is thorough and speedy.

Mupenda, who was returning from Kinshasa to the North Kivu Region where the sprawling refugee camps are situated, said Zaire would step in and relaunch its own forced expulsion programme if the UNHCR appeared incapable of meeting the deadline. "We will put the refugees back on the border if the UNHCR does not properly carry out its mission by December 31," Mupenda said.

The UNHCR's repatriation programme was dealt a significant blow by last week's massacre in which a force from Rwanda's Tutsi-led army was ambushed by Hutu guerrillas from across the border. The Tutsi soldiers proceeded to massacre at least 110 villagers in nearby Kanama.

The incident has merely heightened the fears of the Hutu refugees who are afraid that their return to Rwanda could spark reprisals for Hutu massacres carried out during last year's civil war which left more than 500,000 dead. Some 700,000 refugees are housed in huge camps in the north Kivu region.

Djibouti

Strike Ends; Work Resumes 18 September

AB1809121095 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 0730 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The strike cailed by Djibouti's Confederation of Labor Unions on 6 September to protest a rise in taxes and the reduction in civil servants' allowances, with the exception of the national education sector, has run out of steam. Work resumed today in the various sectors affected by the strike, especially in the medical service, the enterprises, the social security service, the Railway Corporation, and the Posts and Telecommunications Corporation. However, the resumption of work stoppages here and there cannot be ruled out because some trade union leaders have either been suspended or fired.

Kenya

Moi, Pope Give Speeches at Airport

EA1809194695 Nairobi KNA in English 1703 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Nairobi, 18 September (KNA) — President Daniel arap Moi was among thousands of Kenyans who thronged the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport to welcome Pope John Paul II when he arrived in the country this afternoon at the start of a three-day visit.

Also at hand to receive the pope were the apostolic pronuncio, Archbishop Clemente Faccani, and 36 cardinals, among them Cardinal Maurice Otunga.

The plane carrying the pore touched down shortly after three p.m. The holy father then inspected a guard of honor mounted by a detachment of the Kenya Air Force.

The highlight of the pope's visit will be a three-hour mass at Nairobi's Uhuru Park tomorrow, which will also be attended by President Moi. The pope is expected to announce the findings of the African synod convened last year in Rome.

Speaking at the welcoming ceremony, President Moi urged religious leaders to use their spiritual influence to bring about the peace that the world yearns for, in view of the turbulence worldwide. President Moi, who quoted extensively from the Bible, said the church had a central role to play in stabilizing the world.

President Moi pointed out that the church would particularly be indispensable in promoting peace and the world of evils of wars, civil strife, marginalization, corruption and other vices that alienate mankind from God and breed hate among people. The president went on to say that though Kenya was grateful to God for the peace and freedom that continue to prevail in the country, there were suffering and upheavals in this region, which could have been avoided had truth been told, as the case of Rwanda.

In his reply, the pope paid a glowing tribute to Kenyans for their traditional hospitality, saying it was the desire of the Catholic Church to foster mutual understanding between the church and the state.

He said his coming to Africa marked a celebration of the special session of the African synod, which was committed to the spiritual and humanitarian mission to this continent. The holy father said in celebrating the sucharist the church was keen on fostering dignity, freedom and advancement of humanity. He explained that the church did this through the promotion of educational and social projects.

Noting that the African continent was at a crossroads, Pope John Paul II said the church was deeply concerned with the destiny of the African people. In this regard, the pope called upon leaders to exercise wisdom in their difficult task of leadership.

The pope called for respect in the society, adding that civilization should be founded on the best traditions of this continent. He therefore added that cooperation in the social units should be devoid of divisive tendencies and have solidarity, not only during happy moments but even in times of difficulties.

On the choice of Kenya as one of the countries on his African tour, Pope John Paul II said he was conscious of the unique position Nairobi held as a center of trade, communication, education, culture and as a location for many international organizations and agencies in Africa. He said this position had enabled all forms of freedom to flourish and especially the freedom of worship, speech and association.

Among those present to give the pope a tumultous welcome were the Vice President Professor George Saitoti, several cabinet ministers, the head of public service and secretary to the cabinet, Professor Philip Mbithi, the chief of general staff, General Mahmoud Mohammed, Nairobi PC [provincial commissioner] Francis Lekolol, members of the diplomatic corps and wananchi [citizens] from all walks of life.

Muslims Reject Invitation to Papal Function

EA1809204095 Nairobi KTN Television Network in English 1800 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In a surprise turn of events, members of the Muslim community have refused to

participate in the occasion of the announcement of the results of the African synod. Earlier, the Muslim community had accepted an invitation made by the pope to participate with the imam of Jamia Mosque as the official spokesman of the Muslims. This morning, the imam of the mosque handed back VIP cards, stating that the Muslim community would not participate in the Catholic event. The Muslims feel that the central issue about the African synod is that the Catholic Church has an agenda of evangelizing the whole of Africa by the year 2000, and this is against their aspirations.

[Begin Friar Stephen Okello recording] We would like to assure the Muslim community in Kenya and all over the world that the Catholic Church has not changed its intention to recognize and to work with other faiths, and any kind of detesting or any kind of refraining from this collaboration is only detrimental to the unity we are trying to forge for all of us in the world and in Africa. [end recording]

UN Denies Ugandan Rebel Lawkena Visits Sudan

EA1809141895 Nairobi THE EASTAFRICAN in English 18 Sep 95 p 1

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The Nairobi office of the United Nairons High Commissioner for Refugees has denied reports that Ugandan rebel leader Alice Lakwena travelled from Kenya to southern Sudan for a meeting with another anti-Kampala rebel, her uncle Joseph Kony. "As far as we know, Alice Lakwena has not left Ifo" in northeast Kenya, Ms. Millicent Mutuli of UNHCR told The EASTAFRICAN last Thursday [14 September]. "We are not aware of Alice in southern Sudan. We have been in touch with the office at Dadaah and they say Alice is in Ifo".

Ms. Lakwena, a self-described priestess, has been a refugee in Kenya since she fled Uganda in 1987 when her Holy Spirit movement was routed by Uganda's National Resistance Army. She lived at a refugee camp in Thika until it was closed recently, when she and a small entourage were shifted to ifo camp in the sprawling Dadaab refugee cluster in Northeastern Province.

The government-supporting NEW VISION newspaper in Kampala reported last Wednesday that Ms. Lakwena flew to southern Sudan from Kenya on 22nd August through Juba, then travelled by road under Sudanese Government escort for the rendezvous with Kony, leader of the Lord's Resistance Army, at a camp in Palutaka. [passage omitted]

UNHCR officials described the reported journey as "far-fetched", insisting that Lakwena was unlikely to leave a camp where she is a "special case" without the

knowledge of UNHCR officials. "Refugees moving out of the camp must have documents from the UNHCR camp office. They cannot move without authorization", said Ms. Mutuli. [passage omitted]

Sudanese Opposition Official Abducted

EA1809145095 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia International Service in English 1030 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Sudan's banned opposition 'Ummah Party has said that its representative in Kenya has been abducted by security officials of the Sudanese Embassy in Nairobi. The party said in a statement released in Cairo that Sudanese officials collaborating with some members of the Kenyan security forces had kidnapped Al-Bashir Ahmad Salman, and planned to send him back to the Sudan. It gave no details of Salman's abduction.

In Nairobi, Sudanese Embassy officials, opposition figures, and Kenyan police were not immediately available for comment.

The 'Ummah statement said that Salman was captured in an operation supervised by a Major General Muhammad Ahmad Mustafa al-Dhahab, a state minister responsible for Sudan's external security, currently visiting Nairobi.

It appealed to Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi to intervene to find out where Salman was being detained and get him freed. 'Ummah Party leader Sadiq al-Mahdi, whose democratically elected government was overthrown in a 1989 military coup by President 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, was imprisoned in Khartoum for three months earlier this year.

Somalia

Ali Mahdi Threatens To Declare War on Aidid

AB1809135595 Paris AFP in English 1221 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mogadishu, 18 Sep (AFP)
— Somali warlord Ali Mahdi Mohamed threatened
Monday [18 September] to declare an "all-out war"
against his rival Mohamed Farah Aidid who captured
the inland town of Baidoa unless the south Mogadishu
strongman withdrew his militiamen within 24 hours.

Aidid led some 600 fighters in a blitzkrieg to take control of the town on Sunday and detained 17 expatriate aid workers there, saying he was putting them in "protective custody". Travellers arriving in Mogadishu from Baidoa said at least 10 people were killed or wounded during clashes between Aidid's fighters and a small resistance group from the Rahanweyn sub-clan.

Ali Mahdi told reporters here that Aidid would be held responsible for the "catastrophe" that would ensue from his latest attempt to extend his control beyond south Mogadishu.

Reports from Baidoa said the 17 expatriates were being confined to their offices after their bodyguards were disarmed by Aidid's militiamen who dismantled their radio sets. The foreigners would be asked to obtain residence permits from Aidid's interim administration, sources close to the warlord said here.

Aidid's supporters elected him "interim president" of Somalia in June. He has since dubbed his militiamen Somalia's "national army" and has embarked on a campaign to disarm opponents and establish himself as Somalia's pre-eminent leader.

Ali Mahdi also claims to be "interim president".

Baidoa was reported calm on Monday following sporadic exchanges of fire on Sunday. A rocket propelled grenade exploded at the town's main market set it on fire during the fighting. Militiamen loyal to Aidid erected check points around the town to control movement in and out of the town on Monday.

Baid a was dubbed "the city of death" during a disastrous famine in 1992, and aid workers are again reporting starvation in Somalia as a result of floods, drought and poverty.

Aid workers based in Baidoa say rival clan militiamen in the town have clashed on a number of occasions recently, but it was generally regarded as an oasis of relative peace.

Somalia has been ruled by warlords since the overthrow of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre in 1991.

'To Liberate' Country From Aidid

EA1809203195 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1700 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] The SSA [Somali Salvation Alliance] Supreme Council today briefed the Somali people on the latest political and peace situation in the country. In a statement issued in Mogadishu, the Supreme Council said it was aware of the fact that 98 percent of the Somali supporters of the SSA's political programs, based on peace, unity, democracy, regional autonomy, the holding of a national reconciliation conference, and the formation of a broad-based government, were affected by the political developments in our country.

The statement said: Regrettably, the people's aspirations are being thwarted by General Mohamed Farah Aidid and his clique, who have lost the Somali people's con-

fidence and believe they can achieve leadership by way of tribalism and through the barrel of a gun. In order to gain a foothold and humiliate others, Aidid has always resorted to stirring up war in one region after another. After the departure of UNOSOM [United Nations Operation in Somalia]-II, Aidid attacked peaceful areas, such as the Bermuda, Makkah, and Madina Districts in Mogadishu; Gelguduud Region; and finally now Baidoa, the Bay regional capital. Aidid had also embarked on a project to disarm people by force.

The SSA Supreme Council statement said: The attack on Baidoa is the second act of Aidid's play to reintroduce looting, displacement, starvation, and death to the region. In 1992, the daily death rate in the region was between 1,000 and 1,500. The statement continues: As the Somali people can testify, Aidid has often been warned to desist from his actions, but he has ignored the warnings. The statement calls on the fraternal Somali people to make a final decision on their country's future.

After consulting leaders of the SSA armed forces and religious and cultural leaders and in order to protect the Somali people's interests and dignity, the SSA Supreme Council has resolved to liberate the country from the bandits loyal to Aidid and to immediately restore peace and normalcy and form a national government to revive the nation.

The SSA also condemns Aidid's bandit attack on Bay Region, and informs the Somali people and world at large that Aidid will be held responsible for any problems arising from his action. The SSA officially calls on people living in Bay Region to sacrifice their lives for their sacred book, property, and honor. The Bay people are also challenged to choose between oppression and freedom. They are told they can rely on SSA supporters. The SSA Supreme Council orders peace defense forces in the country's regions to be on high alert, organized, and effectively to do their sacred duty to defend the country and people. Regional commands, in constant consulation with the SSA Supreme Council, are charged with the implementation of the defense of peace orders.

Atto Radio: Fighting Continues in Baidoa

EA1809192095 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Reports from Baidoa say the fighting touched off in that town yesterday by the self-styled group [as heard] is continuing for the second day running. The reports add that Baidoa residents have organized themselves and are fiercely resisting the self-styled group. The reports further confirm that the self-styled group has kidnapped the leaders of the Digil and Mirifleh clans in the region, as well as four aid workers—three Sudanese and an Afghani.

German Funds Said Used for IFP Paramilitary

MB1509174295 Johannesburg MAIL & GUARDIAN in English 15-21 Sep 95 p 7

[Report by Paul Stober, Marion Edmonds, Eddie Koch, and Ann Eveleth]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Evidence has emerged that the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) plans to rebuild its paramilitary and intelligence capabilities — using German funds earmarked for development — ahead of a possible showdown with central government over a constitution for KwaZulu/Natal.

And, in the week that Chancellor Helmut Kohl made a state visit to South Africa, the MAIL & GUARDIAN has learned that there is serious concern in President Nelson Mandela's office about the use of German funds in the province.

Sources in Mandela's office say the president has an "ongoing concern" about German development funds to the IFP being diverted for intelligence and other paramilitary purposes in KwaZulu/Natal.

But it is known that there is serious concern in the Cabinet's inner circle that the IFP may be trying to rebuild its policing and military capabilities ahead of a possible showdown with the central government over a federal constitution for KwaZulu/Natal.

Despite assurances from the German chancellor that his government does not interfere in South Africa's domestic affairs, it has emerged that the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the taxpayer-financed funding agency of Kohl's Christian Democratic Union (CDU), has sunk tens of millions of rand into Inkatha over the last decade.

At least two intelligence sources have told the M&G this week that two German citizens currently in South Africa are involved in trying to devise ways of using money intended for development projects in KwaZulu/Natal to bankroll a new Inkatha intelligence unit. The intelligence unit is intended to replace the oncepowerful Bureau of Security and Intelligence (BSI) which was disbanded together with the KwaZulu police.

It is understood that Joe Mathews, Deputy Minister of Safety and Security and a high-ranking Inkatha official, and IFP Senator Phillip Powell, will play leading roles in the new intelligence unit and that IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi has been briefed about the plan.

Also named as a player is a man called Stan Armstrong, who is said to have played a key role in the BSI before the KwaZulu homeland was disbanded. Armstrong served as an administrative chief in IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi's office at the time.

Armstrong was named last year by Rian van Rensburg
— a former military officer who claims to have been
involved in the training of paramilitary units for the
IFP — as the link man between his clandestine work
and the party's leadership.

There are fears in the president's office that the proposed new intelligence agency is part of a more extensive set of contacts between the Inkatha Freedom Party and conservative organisations in Germany — a major source of support for the IFP, especially since access to state revenue was cut off with the disbandment of the KwaZulu homeland. Presidential spokesman Parks Mankahlana refused to comment on the reports.

Large sums of money have been donated to Inkatha since 1983 through the CDU's Konrad Adenauer Foundation. The Foundation receives German taxpayers' money to fund political and development programmes in the Third World. It is not allowed to finance political parties as such and the money has been paid to the Inkatha Institute.

It emerged from the Inkathagate scandal that the Institute was the channel used by the South African security police for secret government funding of the IFP. Major Louis Botha, the security police officer who acted as the link man with Inkatha, has close family ties with Germany. Botha was arrested some three months ago and charged in connection with the murder of 13 ANC supporters in 1987. This month, Botha asked for his bail conditions to be lifted so that he could attend the "50th wedding anniversary of his father-in-law" in Germany.

The Inkatha Institute closed down after the Inkathagate scandal and has been replaced by the Institute for Federal Democracy. The Konrad Adenauer Foundation now donates some R3.5-million [rands] a year to the new institute. Sources close to the Adenauer Foundation say it is currently channelling a minimum of R9-million a year into political and development projects in KwaZulu/Natal.

The head of the new-look institute is Rama Naidu, former head of the Konrad Adenauer office in Cape Town. Naidu insists his organisation is not a think-tank for Inkatha and that it offers its services to a wide range of political organisations.

Ingor Scholz director of Konrad Adenauer's Africa desk said he had been disappointed by past media reports linking foundation money to fomenting bloodshed in KwaZulu/Natal. Scholz stressed that the foundation was now providing constitutional support to all political parties in South Africa which requested such assistance.

But it is understood that there has recently been some concern among consultants hired by the foundation over the possibility of its funds being "misspent" in the volatile province.

The history of German links with Inkatha has reinforced concern about foreign involvement in moves to create a new intelligence agency linked to the IFP.

The developments come amid reports of a hardline draft constitution drawn up by Inkatha's national leadership that grants extensive regional powers to KwaZulu/Natal. The draft IFP document provides for a right to declare provincial states of emergency and set up a provincial army. It also places strong controls on the power of the national army to operate in the province.

Konrad Adenauer Foundation funds funnelled through the Institute for Federal Democracy have been used to pay for a number of German consultants to help the IFP draft its constitutional proposals. The latest draft constitution is, however believed to have been produced by the IFP in the face of criticism from the German advisers.

IFP Draft Constitution Sees Provincial Army

MB1509172895 Johannesburg MAIL & GUARDIAN in English 15-21 Sep 95 p 7

[Report by Marion Edmunds and Ann Eveleth]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The recently released hardline Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] constitution calls for a provincial army, exclusive provincial policing powers and the right to refuse intervention in the province by the South African National Defence Force. It also claims exclusive powers over all constitutional, legislative, judicial, and financial matters and paves the way for an unelected provincial government.

The IFP draft says neither the provincial premier nor other members of the provincial cabinet need come from the elected parliament. The Zulu King is mandated, in consultation with the leaders of majority parties, to choose the premier, who is then empowered to form a cabinet at his discretion. The provincial parliament is then mandated to cast a vote of confidence or no confidence in the cabinet within 10 days.

The African National Congress analysis argues this feature "produces an autocratic monarchist government which is not really responsible to the parliament and to the people".

The ANC has slammed the IFP constitution in an internal paper — prepared for the party leadership but leaked to the MAIL & GUARDIAN this week — which claims that the IFP proposal — "is a document of secession...written under the supposition of and in preparation for secession".

The ANC said of the IFP security provisions for a Volunteer Reserve Force and exclusive provincial policing powers: "There is no federation in the whole world which allows its inherent state to maintain its own army."

The release of the IFP constitution comes amid a growing rift between IFP provincial "moderates" and national hardliners over the multi-party constitutional negotiations in progress in the province.

Provincial negotiators this week defied moves by national negotiator and IFP deputy national chairman Sipo Mzimela, and constitutional advisor Mario Ambrosini, to quash the multi-party process and force a parliamentary vote on a set of hardline principles which would surely have set the province on course for fresh elections.

Mzimela last week rejected a compromise document drafted by all parties, but provincial negotiators this week pushed ahead with multi-party talks in the constitutional committee.

But provincial negotiators claimed last week that Mzimela's hardline position had "nothing to do" with their efforts to secure a negotiated compromise with other parties including the ANC in the province.

Observers argue that the seismic rift in the IFP casts doubts on attempts to democratise party structures over the past year, while the heavy-handed interference of national leaders in the provincial process casts aspersions on the party's claims of federalism.

Ironically, a party whose claims to internal democracy are in dispute, is promoting a constitution that provides for the government of the "kingdom" to intervene in the internal affairs of political parties and trade unions whose structures are deemed undemocratic.

The constitution also says: "The kingdom of KwaZulu/ Natal is a sovereign member state of the Republic of South Africa." The ANC's rejoinder is that "the notion of a 'member state' is only used within an international context: "For example, the European states forming the European Union are called 'member states' in the Treaty of the European Community."

The ANC also criticises the IFP claim for "a priority of the provincial constitution over the (national) constitution", saying "the only similar rules are to be found in the separatist constitution of Tartarstan". [Words indistinct] ANC argues these clauses "could only be accepted after a secession of KwaZulu/Natal.... No federal state (anywhere in the world) can — except in danger of its own dissolution — permit that the legitimacy of its national actions would finally be controlled by the

constitutions of its provinces or revised by their constitutional courts. The intention clearly is in the direction of secession".

The IFP constitution also makes several declarations regarding the superiority of provincial laws over national laws. The ANC argues this claim for the "sovereignty of parliament implies that the Republic of South Africa...should only be a composed entity (not a state) consisting of sovereign provinces with all the attributes of a national state".

IFP Documents Reveal 'Gap' on Constitution

MB1709150895 Johannesburg NEW NATION in English 15 Sep 95 p 13

[Report by Amrit Manga]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The extent to which moderates and federalists in Inkatha [Inkatha Freedom Party; IFP] differ from the hardline secessionists, suggests that only a massive ideological shift within the party could save it from certain disintegration.

A measure of the constitutional gap that exists between moderates and secessionists is vividly illustrated by the differences in the content of two documents made public this week. These are the "Constitution of the Province of the Kingdom of KwaZulu/Natal" thought to have been finalised in March this year, and the "Working Document on the Constitutional Principles for the Constitution of KwaZulu/Natal", a product of a multi-party workshop held at the end of August.

Although the draft constitution was completed in March this year, the IFP has never formally tabled it in any forum, largely because it had failed to secure unanimous support in the party. In many respects, the document is seen as an advance on the IFP's 20-point secessionist programme.

The draft constitution makes provision for the establishment of a "Volunteer Reserve Force" which comes under the direct command of a council chaired by the premier of the province. In terms of the proposed constitution, central government will not be allowed to conscript citizens of the kingdom to defend the country. If central government needs soldiers to defend the country in times of war, it will have to draw on the province's army but only if authorised by the provincial government.

The draft constitution also makes provision for the reserve force to defend the province against external threats and combat social unrest within its boundaries.

Proposals for the formation of a provincial army are in line with the 20-point plan for the establishment

of a separatist state. The plan calls on the province to "develop as soon as possible its own provincial security and protection forces". According to the 20-point document, legislation making provision for the establishment of these forces has already been prepared.

The constitutional proposal takes on an added significance when examined against another provision which says the "armed forces shall only have the power to enter or be stationed in the Kingdom of KwaZulu/Natal in consultation with the government of the Kingdom".

This effectively bars members of the South African National Defence Force from being deployed in the province with, out the consent of the provincial government.

The "Constitution of the Kingdom of KwaZulu/Natal" also elevates the authority of provincial law above that national law. "Any law of the Republic of South Africa which is inconsistent with a provincial law shall be ineffective in the Kingdom..."

It goes on to say elsewhere that "no power of the Republic of South Africa shall be legitimately exercised and applied in the Kingdom of KwaZulu/Natal if inconsistent with the principles and provisions of this constitution".

Proposals in this constitution also suggests that the provincial government, including the premier of the province, could be full of unelected people.

According to the constitution, the King, after consultation with the major political parties, "shall nominate the premier preferably from the ranks of the majority party. The premier need not be a member of parliament," it goes on to say, which implies that the executive head of government need not be elected.

But the constitution goes further. It suggests that the unelected premier can then form a cabinet from among people that are not necessarily members of parliament either. This would amount to rule by decree, a fundamental departure from democratic governance.

Inkatha's constitutional proposals also make provision for a provincial judiciary and constitutional court.

In contrast, the "Working Document on Constitutional Principles" that followed the multi-party workshop at the end of last month, does not at all resemble the IFP constitutional proposals.

It ensures that the national and not the provincial constitution is supreme. While it allows for a provincial police force, it makes this subject to the ultimate authority of the national safety and security ministry. It does not make any provision for a provincial army or

militia, judiciary or constitutional court. There is also no provision for appointing unelected candidates to the position of premier.

Significant about the "Working Document on Constitutional Principles" is that its provisions enjoy the support of Inkatha's provincial parliamentarians, who Buthelezi has accused of collaborating with the IFP's adversaries.

IFP Infighting Said Making Election Likelier

MB1809174695 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1555 GMT 18 Sep 95

[Analysis by Bobby Jordan]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Durban Sept 18 SAPA — Opposition parties in the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP]-dominated KwaZulu/Natal government on Monday [18 September] said a leadership crisis within the IFP appeared to be driving the province toward a provincial election.

This followed the weekend's fiery IFP national council meeting in Ulundi which revealed an ever-widening gulf between IFP hardliners, who favour an election, and moderates, who favour negotiation with other political parties, particularly with regard to the provincial constitution.

Observers said IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi appeared to have sided with the hardliners in their demand for a federalist provincial constitution, which could be secured if the IFP wins a two-thirds majority in the provincial election.

KwaZulu/Natal Democratic Party leader Roger Burrows told SAPA there was little doubt Buthelezi was backing the IFP hardliners in his approach to the constitution-making process in the province.

This was seen at the IFP's weekend meeting in the ousting of provincial constitutional committee chairman Arthur Konigkramer, who may have been perceived as too conciliatory.

Konigkramer on Monday confirmed he had been censured by the IFP leadership over the weekend. "Under the present circumstances I am unable to serve on the committee," Konigkramer said.

Burrows said Konigkramer's censure had "major implications" for the future of the province. The move suggested the IFP was definitely not willing to compromise on their constitutional proposals.

"What appears to be the situation is that the IFP either wants their proposals accepted or nothing at all. Whilst there was a perception that there was a group of hardliners within the IFP, what was significant over the

weekend (at the IFP council meeting) was that it became evident Buthelezi was in total support of the hardliners and, in fact, was leading the charge," Burrows said.

African National Congress constitutional affairs spokesman John Jeffery said ANC members would have to decide whether or not to continue participation on the constitutional committee following the resignation of Konigkramer.

The weekend's council meeting proved the IFP was deeply divided and was continuing to disrupt the province, Jeffery added. The IFP's failure to attend an ad hoc constitutional committee meeting on Monday was further proof of the party's disruptive influence.

"We will now have to consider whether it's worth continuing without the IFP or giving up (participation on the constitutional committee) completely," Jeffery said.

'Serious' Conflict Said Splitting IFP

MB1809192395 Johannesburg THE SUNDAY INDEPENDENT in English 17 Sep 95 p 6

[Report by Sam Sole]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The conflict within the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] is serious. One one side are the party's pragmatists, including KwaZulu/Natal premier Frank Mdlalose, most of the provincial caucus and some within the national assembly. On the other are those who think that the province can be run as an autonomous kingdom insulated from the demon ANC.

IFP president Mangosuthu Buthelezi, heavily influenced by his constitutional advisers Mario Ambrosini, Walter Felgate and Sipo Mzimela, the minister of correctional services, has shown himself inclined toward the second option.

The pressures of power have further exposed the conflict which peaked shortly before the IFP's entry into national elections last year.

The directive to withdraw from the intergovernmental forum, which mediates between the provinces and central government, has caused dissatisfaction within the provincial caucus, as has the role of Ambrosini.

Ambrosini has repeatedly interfered with the drafting of the provincial constitution and castigated the provincial government and its leader for weakness, Mzimela has reportedly followed his lead.

Despite public denials, well placed sources say the premier has tendered his resignation as national chairman of the IFP twice in the last two months, the first time citing untenable interference by party hotheads, the second time his age and family commitments. Twice he was

persuaded to stay on by Buthelezi, but party sources say the premier is sick to death of being "bullied".

And in the past weeks, the IFP provincial caucus and its representatives on the constitutional committee have regularly bucked the party line — most recently on Tuesday when the committee adopted a resolution binding itself to drafting the provincial constitution through negotiation.

Key black members of the provincial and national caucus, including Mdlalose, David Ntombela, Faith Gaza, Prince Vincent Zulu and Dr Ziba Jiyane, petitioned Buthelezi for a meeting on Friday night, the eve of the party's critical national council meeting in a bid to head off the hardliners.

The dispute is nominally constitutional, but is really about whether the party should adopt a co-operative/competitive approach to the ANC or a confrontational one.

On August 10, the national council adopted a constitutional green paper based largely on a super-federalist constitution drawn up by Ambrosini.

However, the premier, sensing that the document would fail to garner the required two-thirds majority in the provincial assembly and in so doing force provincial elections, postponed the assembly sitting. This allowed his negotiators more time to come up with a document which could achieve the necessary support.

They managed this quite successfully. A two-day bosberaad [bush summit] delivered a set of principles which, though incomplete, enjoyed broad consensus. They also did [words indistinct] whether to precipitate a provincial election or not.

While both the IFP and the ANC trumpet about provincial elections, privately they admit they would be costly in human life and provincial resources and would, in fact, decide little.

Minority parties warned this week that if the IFP's national leadership forced elections on the province they would have blood on their hands.

"It would be a disaster at best," warned Pan Africanist Congress veteran Joe Mkhwanazi. "When the premier announces parliament is dissolved we will have much more trouble than we have today."

Despite the seriousness of the situation, the tensions within the party are perhaps a demonstration of a growing political maturity.

Observers believe the developing solidarity within the provincial caucus is a healthy counterpoint to the disproportionate influence of a few acolytes.

Zulu King, IFP Feud Over Shaka Day Fete

MB1909101995 Johanesburg THE STAR in English

MB1909101995 Johanesburg THE STAR in English 19 Sep 95 p 11

[Report by Mondli Makhanya]

[FBIS Transcrib?d Text] Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini is headed for a clash with the Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP]-led KwaZulu/Natal government over the commemoration of Shaka Day next weekend.

In a replay of the acrimony surrounding last year's commemoration which led to the breakdown in relations between the king and IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the two sides are clashing over whether next weekend's event should go ahead.

The provincial government has planned two rallies, one at Shaka's graveside in Stanger on Sunday and another at Umlazi's King Goodwill Zwelithini Stadium the following day. The two rallies are in defiance of Zwelithini's recent instruction that the commemoration should be suspended.

A similar order by Zwelithini last year was ignored by the provincial government and the event went ahead with Buthelezi as the main speaker.

Zwelethini is demanding that KwaZulu/Natal Premier Frank Mdlalose tender a ritual apology for defying him and going ahead with last year's celebrations. Mdlalose has steadfastly refused to do this. KwaZulu/Natal government spokesman Thembinkosi Memela said the provincial government's position was that Zwelithini was welcome to attend the commemoration. "The amakhosi [chiefs] are as loyal to him as ever and would want him there," said Memela.

The tussle over the Shaka Day commemorations crowns a year of squabbling between King Zwelithini and the KwaZulu/Natal provincial government which began shortly before last year's commemoration.

IFP Youth Leader Discusses Political Strategy

MB1609210295 Johannesburg NEW NATION in English 15 Sep 95 p 11

[Interview with IFP Youth Brigade leader Bonginkosi Dlamini by correspondents Jimmy Seepe and Sello Seripe; place and date not given — questions printed in boldface]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] IFP [Inkatha Freedom Party] president Mangosuthu Buthelezi last week threatened to withdraw as president of your organisation and complained of not getting enough support from the ground. Could it be that the youth are not behind him?

It was not a threat or complaint. There are a few elements within the party and most especially members of parliament and the provincial government who see the call for an early provincial election as a threat to their personal gains. What the president was saying was that if we don't go for provincial elections in order to gain a required majority to write the provincial constitution before the final constitution is completed by the Constituent Assembly, it will be like his 20-year fight for freedom being fruitless. The ANC wants to entrench a centralistic constitutional approach on all of us.

There are those individuals within the party who are afraid of this because they think they will lose their big salaries and houses. Basically, he was saying if people are not prepared to take drastic decisions and to be principled and start to look at personal gains, then he is prepared to consider his position as the president of the party. The president is assured of the support of the Youth Brigade.

Do you think the IFP should have come up with stringent rules when it recruited white and Indian MPs who are alleged to be frustrating party constitutional proposals for KwaZulu/Natal?

I think the problem here is that in the phase of transitional period of our country, more people were crossing floors. In 1990, when liberation movements were unbanned, we as a party took a decision to transform ourselves from a cultural movement into a political party. We opened our membership to other races because we had confined our membership to black people only then. As a result, we attracted many people from across political spectrum.

There are those who don't understand the culture of IFP politics. If you follow Buthelezi's politics, he stands up against anything he thinks is wrong and that is where we are supporting him as a party leader. So some members think when the press and other organisations bombard us, they can change our principles. These are the individuals leaking things to the press. To me, this is lack of discipline. They are serving their personal agenda. If they feel frustrated within the party, then the door is open for them to leave. I feel they came with the intention of changing the party and are now failing to do so. [passage omitted]

What relationship does the Youth Brigade want to have with the PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress]?

The relation between us is based on their stand that there should not be war among Africans. As a party, we believe in non-violence and feel we can relate well with them. Our relations are based on Ubuntu [humanity].

We, however, differ politically, since they want a centralist state while we need a federal system of government. Some of their members still believe in socialism while we favour a free market enterprise. But as a party which believes in multiparty, we think we must have good relationships with other parties even though we differ politically.

Why did the Youth Brigade fail to come up with resolutions that concern development? Does it mean the poverty that surrounds parts of KwaZulu/Natal is less important?

We discussed issues of development based on our philosophy of self-help and self-reliance. We do not want to create a culture of people having to wait and open their mouths for Baba [father] Reconstruction Development Programme (RDP) to come and deliver.

We have developmental projects that we are running, though violence and the deployment of security forces in KwaZulu/Natal are hampering that progress.

The Youth Brigade wants violence to end in KwaZulu/Natal but condemns the presence of security forces in the area. How could this be possible?

I think we need a political solution, not a military one. Before elections we had violence between the IFP and ANC in Gauteng. There is now peace because the IFP has agreed that [words indistinct] South African National Defence Force is comprised of the same former Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation; ANC military wing] members who killed our members. That is why we say they must withdraw in order to find a political solution to the violence in the area. [passage omitted]

The IFP is largely visible in Gauteng and Natal and some bits of Western Cape. Are there any plans to make inroads in other provinces?

We have already made important breakthroughs in some of these provinces. We already have 24 branches in Mpumalanga province. We have not yet launched branches in North West but we are holding consultative meetings with people from Lucas Mangope's party, the ANC and the Peoples' Progressive Party. [passage omitted]

IFP, Sowejoca Align for Local Elections

MB1509143295 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1311 GMT 15 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Sept 14 SAPA
— The Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] West Rand branch

and the South Western (Johannesburg) Joint Civic Association [Sowejoca] on Thursday [14 September] announced they would join forces for the local government elections.

The alliance will concentrate on wards in greater Johannesburg by drafting a combined list of candidates for the transitional metropolitan council [TMC] and substructures, IFP regional chairman Humphrey Ndlovu and Sowejoca chairman Basil Douglas said in a joint statement in Johannesburg.

The candidate list had been drafted and would be ready for the noon deadline on Friday, Ndlovo said.

Apart from a general manifesto, several mini manifestos would be drafted for different wards to better address communities' needs, Douglas said.

"We are very proud of this pact as it is the first time a civic organisation will be on equal footing with major political parties," he added. "This is true non-racialism in action."

Douglas said the IFP was the only political organisation willing to give the coloured community space.

Sowejoca would not register as a party, but the colours of the IFP emblem on the ballot papers would be changed to also represent the civic organisation. Douglas will be a candidate for the southern metropolitan substructure as well as for the TMC.

IFP Calls For Inquiry Into 'Ethnic Cleansing'

MB1809175795 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1736 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Durban Sept 18 SAPA — Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] secretary general Dr Ziba Jiyane on Monday [18 September] called on Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi to establish an independent commission of inquiry into violence against IFP leaders and supporters.

Jiyane said the country was witnessing "ethnic and political cleansing" carried out with the approval of elements of the police and defence force. He claimed at least 430 IFP leaders had been murdered in systematic fashion.

"Whilst it is apparently unacceptable for the Bosnian Serbs to commit genocide against their political opponents, it appears the African National Congress feels free to try and obliterate the IFP physically. The IFP is now saying enough is enough," Jiyane said.

The IFP said in a statement the commission should be established in co-operation with KwaZulu/Natal safety and security MEC [Member of the Executive Council] Rev Celani Mtetwa.

It should also be granted full investigative powers to investigate "the systematic campaign of assassination against IFP leaders". The involvement of police, the defence force and the Internal Stability Unit in the alleged assassination campaign should be investigated.

Several IFP supporters have been attacked in incidents in KwaZulu/Natal recently, including three mourners injured by gunmen during an IFP funeral procession in Wembezi in the Midlands at the weekend.

IFP leader Protas Ngubane was found dead near Impendle in the Midlands last weekend. The IFP accused the police of murdering Ngubane, basing it accusation on the testimony of Ngubane's wife, who claimed police abducted her husband from their house the night before his body was found.

IFP To March if Candidates Disqualified

MB1809192295 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1823 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Sept 18 SAPA
— The Inkatha Freedom Party [IFP] on Monday [18 September] warned that its members would go on the march if any of its candidates were disqualified for the November 1 local government elections in Gauteng because of defects in filling in candidature forms.

The warning came from IFP Gauteng legislature member Themba Khoza ahead of Tuesday's deadline for returning officers to notify candidates of any defects in their documentation. Khoza said few of the party's candidates had received information of problems in this regard.

These candidates had already corrected the defects pointed out, so if defects were raised after the deadline, IFP members would go on the march. The IFP did not intend being "cheated" as it had been in the general election of April 1994, he said.

Spokesmen for the African National Congress, the Democratic Party and the National Party said on Monday that their nominations were on track, although some candidates had been informed of defects in their papers.

So far 691 nominations for Greater Johannesburg's the 132 wards have been received, according to the Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council.

As independent candidates are standing in many wards in addition to the three main political parties, four-way contests seem probable in the majority of cases.

Analyst Says Voter Registration 'Manipulated'

MB1809174895 Johannesburg THE SUNDAY INDEPENDENT in English 17 Sep 95 p 6

[Report by Brendan Seery]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There has been "deliberate manipulation" of voter registration figures, through "official sleight of hand" aimed at creating the impression that South Africa is on course for the November local government elections, a political analyst claims.

Such manipulation of figures could well mask the fact that, in many areas, democratic local government may have only a shallow basis of support. Any councils elected in November could, therefore, run the risk of being seen as illegitimate.

In a paper published by the Centre for Policy Studies in Johannesburg on behalf of the Election Information and Research Consortium, the analyst, Grame Gotz, said registration rates had been massaged above the "magical 66 percent mark" to show that "a satisfactory foundation for local elections has been laid".

He said that the increase in numbers of voters registered could have been achieved as much by juggling figures as by the actual collection of new registration forms.

Gotz said a "concerted effort" by officials of the Elections Task Group had begun in March to get local authorities to reduce their estimates of the number of potential voters. As the estimates were reduced, so the calculated registration percentages increased.

In Gauteng, Gotz said, the largest revisions of the number of potential voters had occurred "precisely around the time of the two deadlines for registration". This suggested, he claimed, that there had been "concentrated pressure on officials, either seif-assumed or imposed from above, to correct the image their registration rates projected". This would in effect "leave us in real severe doubt about the real base of voters eligible to go to the polls," Gotz said.

He said the illusion created by the juggling of the figures would cloud assessments of just how many people were committed to the idea of local government and in which areas there were still problems with getting people to register.

In some places, Gotz said, there was still massive mistrust of the whole system of local government, and it seemed apparent that many voters were not aware of the precise impact of local government. Many people regarded the November polls as either unnecessary or as merely a chance to reconfirm their support for parties on national issues, he said.

NP Gauteng Campaign To Emphasize Law, Order

MB1809175995 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1741 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Johannesburg Sept 18 SAPA — The National Party [NP] in Gauteng will place heavy emphasis on law and order issues in its campaign for the November 1 local government elections, including a return of the death penalty in certain instances, the NP said on Monday [18 September].

The joint chairman of the NP's Gauteng communication service, Daryl Swanepoel, said in a statement the NP poster: "We demand security now", indicated the party's primary priority was to address endemic crime in the province.

The NP view was that violent criminals such as murderers, rapists and child molesters should be jailed without the right to parole. The NP also wanted stricter bail requirements, an upgrading of the police's training and equipment, and for the police to pursue a neutral political role.

Swanepoel said the NP would also pledge to fight unemployment and poverty, as both contributed significantly to crime.

Denel Confirms 47 Grenade Launchers Stolen

MB1909072795 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0500 GMT 19 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South African arms manufacturer, Denel, has confirmed that the 40mm grenade launchers that were stolen from a consignment at Durban Harbor on Sunday [17 September] night were owned by the company, and were destined for the export market. Forty seven of the launchers were stolen from a container. Four suspects were arrested and 21 of the launchers were recovered yesterday. Hendrick Martin spoke to Denel Group Chief Executive Paul Holtshousen:

[Begin recording] [Holtshousen] It is unfortunately not possible for me to disclose the destination of this consignment, because we are prohibited by a contractual stipulation with the client.

[Martin] But it was done with the approval of the government?

[Holtshousen] Yes, this is a part of an export order to an approved country, and it is covered with an approved official export permit. [end recording]

South African Press Review for 19 Sep

MB1909130895

[FBIS Editorial Report]

THE STAR

Buthelezi Should Leave Running of KwaZulu/Natal to Premier — Inkatha Freedom Party, IFP, leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi has acknowledged that there are "divisions between moderates and hardliners" in his party, according to a page-16 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 19 September. Yet, instead of committing himself to keeping the party together he has "threatened to resign if dissidents were not immediately brought into line." THE STAR is not impressed by Buthelezi's "politics of threats," and suggests he "leave the running of KwaZulu/Natal to Mdlalose and his provincial team."

Country Cannot Afford Economic Anarchy — According to a second editorial on the same page, figures show the Masakhane, mutual construction, campaign launched by President Mandela "is not succeeding and in some areas has collapsed almost completely." During May to July in 24 of the 37 Gauteng townships service payments have dropped, in some cases dramatically from as high as 83% to 23%, in many others less to less than 5%." The country's leaders, therefore, need to "inject new life" into the campaign and where people genuinely cannot pay "they should be treated with compassion. If they can and won't, let's get tough and make them. We can't afford economic anarchy."

THE SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

Liberation Struggle Replaced By Economic Struggle — The page-10 editorial in Johannesburg THE SUNDAY INDEPENDENT in English on 17 September states that the terrain of South African politics "has shifted, inevitably and decisively, away from talk of struggle and liberation toward the collection and allocation of national resources. How much money from whom and for what underpins a range of debates that will have crucial importance for the political, economic and social well-being of our new nation." Therefore, when citizens "begin to feel the burden of tax is overwhelmingly in the interests of someone or some group other than

themselves, the seeds of despondency and of frustration find fertile ground," says the paper referring to the demand by striking nurses that they should be awarded a more favorable tax dispensation. "The nurses' demand will no doubt be fobbed off, along with the complaints of all who believe they are being unfairly treated by the fiscus. The state, however, has been warned." With tax reform moving at glacial speed, effective policy planning, consultation and education is vital if future conflict is to be avoided."

SOWETAN

IFP Divisions — Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 19 September in a page-10 editorial advises the IFP to "grow up." Referring to IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi's threat to resign over divisions in his party, the paper points out that divisions in a political party are serious "but not terminally destructive." "Only one-party states and authoritarian structures discourage differences of opinion." "Dr Buthelezi will not resign nor should divisions in his party be seen to be the end of the IFP."

BUSINESS DAY

Long-Term Affordability of Services — In its rush to deliver services and infrastructure to the black townships, the government "is averting its gaze from the potentially huge stumbling block of long-term affordability," notes a page-12 editorial in Johannesburg BUSI-NESS DAY in English on 19 September. Who is going to pay for the water and sewerage systems, streetlights and tarred roads, asks the paper. Furthermore, municipal levy payments in most Gauteng townships are "stagnant or dropping." It appears that the reserves of formerly white councils "are being drained to maintain service levels in black areas." Although a redistribution of resources is necessary "the inescapable fact is that the townships must make a much larger contribution if the government's ambitious development programme is to become a reality."

Angola

UNITA Military Experts Arrive in Luanda

MB1809200795 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Military experts from the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] have arrived in Luanda to participate in talks to finalize the composition of the Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] are already in Luanda. The three experts are Arlindo Isaac Chenda Ben-Ben, Artur Vinama, and Afonso Kalunda.

Ben-Ben, UNITA chief of the General Staff, said they are going to work with the FAA General Staff on various aspects to the process to finalize the composition of the FAA forces. Ben-Ben [words indistinct] the process is a long one, and the two parties' experience is vital to speeding it up.

[Begin Ben-Ben recording] Our purpose is to finalize the composition of the armed forces. There are stages that we will have to go through, and the experiences of the two parties are vital to this process. The FAA and UNITA must use their combined experience to speed up the process. This is the main reason we are here. [end recording]

Ben-Ben also said that both the UN Angola Verification Mission [Unavem]-3 and UNITA are working hard to provide accommodations for UNITA troops.

[Begin recording] [Ben-Ben] Unavem-3 is trying to supply food and create the accommodations, as planned. I believe that it is working on this. Of course, we are also doing our job.

[Unidentified correspondent] What exactly is UNITA doing?

[Ben-Ben] UNITA is helping to create the conditions required for the confinement of troops. [end recording]

UNITA Denies Carrying Out Attacks in Huila

MB1909064395 London BBC World Service in Portuguese 2030 GMT 18 Sep 95

[From the "Ultima Hora" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] In Angola an Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] source has accused the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] armed forces of attacking three villages in Huila Province's Caluquembe District last weekend, with the result that 38 civilians, two FAA soldiers, and five UNITA soldiers were killed. Brigadier Valter Gomes, commander of the FAA's Southern Front, added that one UNITA soldier was captured. This afternoon, we approached Brigadier

(Urbano Chassanha), UNITA's number two man in the Political Commission, for a comment on those incidents.

[Begin recording] [(Chassanha)] It has become commonplace to see the media report incidents blamed on the UNITA armed forces. Once those incidents have been investigated, people inevitably conclude either nothing of the kind happened or, if it happened, somebody else is to blame. What you have in some parts of Angola - particularly in Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul Provinces - are real private armies led by FAA generals and they are principally to blame for such acts of indiscipline. Thus, what I can tell you - I am speaking the truth — is that the government forces are making preparations and, in some instances, they have already begun operations in Huila Province. Whenever the government plans to carry out offensive operations in some area, it fabricates a news item to prepare the public for it. All I can say about those reports is that they are no more than pretexts to launch attacks.

[Unidentified correspondent] FAA sources have gone so far as to allege that UNITA Colonel (Katu) was involved in that operation.

[(Chassanha)] Yes, much has been said about Col. (Katu). I am at liberty to tell you that the UN Angola Verification Mission [Unavem]-3 can confirm even today that Col. (Katu) is in Bailundo. They can establish that Col. (Katu) is in Bailundo and that he was there on the day the alleged operation took place.

[Correspondent] The undeniable fact is that 45 people were killed. Who committed such a massacre?

[(Chassanha)] Well, I do not know whether 45 people were indeed killed. As I have told you before, the government would have come out and told us — even the Unavem-3 — had such a serious incident really taken place. The problem is, we have not been notified of anything.

[Correspondent] The incident at Quilengues is said to have cost the lives of five UNITA soldiers. Does that not worry UNITA?

[(Chassanha)] As I told you earlier, I have received no reports on that incident either from the government, the Unavem-3, or the UNITA General Staff. I have not received any such information. [end recording]

We tried in vain this afternoon to get in touch with General Higino Carneiro, spokesman for the government team to the Joint Commission, so we could not obtain any clarifications on those reports. Gen. Carneiro said he was not available for comment because he had too many meetings to attend.

New Ambassador on Relations With United States

MB1609160395 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1900 GMΓ 15 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Text] Ambassador Antonio Franca dos Santos Ndalu has presented his credentials to President Bill Clinton. Amelia Tombe has just interviewed Ambassador Ndalu.

[Begin recording] [Tombe] You have just presented your credentials to President Bill Clinton.

[Ndalu] Yes.

[Tombe] What was your impression of President Clinton, and how did the ceremony go?

[Ndalu] Well, the ceremony is not very formal here. The whole family was invited. We had the opportunity to exchange views. My impression is that President Clinton is well-informed about the Angolan situation. The United States, particularly the Clinton administration, wants Angola to become an example for peace, conflict resolution, and a center of development in southern Africa. The Clinton administration's policy is to promote peace around the world.

[Tombe] It appears you will find it easy to work, because the United States, thank God, is now more receptive to our cause. In any event, you will have to deal with a great many lobbies [preceding word in English] that will work against us. How do you think you will handle the lobbies working against the Angolan Government?

[Ndalu] I think the solution is not to fight against those lobbies, but to provide correct and specific information on the real situation in Angola. That is what matters.

In principle, I will not waste time fighting against the lobbies, but see to it that the United States gets the correct information. We are not asking the United States to be partial. We expect it to be impartial, but take the real situation into consideration.

My position has been somewhat facilitated by my predecessor. Ambassador Patricio did a good job. There has been great progress in bilateral relations and knowledge about the situation in Angola since relations were formally established in May 1993. But my role is also a complicated one, because the United States still insists that bilateral cooperation will develop if peace is in place. President Clinton knows there are problems in Angola, but [words indistinct] that finally Angola has peace after a 30-year war.

The Angolan mission here is very enthusiastic to keep working for Angola and to convey the facts about the country. Everyone hopes things will run smoothly. [end recording]

Mozambique

Dhlakama on Transforming Government, Constitution

MB1809114395 Maputo DOMINGO in Portuguese 10 Sep 95 pp 4-5

[Interview with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama by correspondent Bento Baloi; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Baloi] A year after the signing of the General Peace Accord, Jose de Castro, who was then Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] Secretary for external relations, told DOMINGO that President Chissano and the Renamo president signed some kind of a secret accord in Gaborone in 1992 in which the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] agreed to change 33 articles of the Constitution. This was immediately denied by the government. Now we are on the eve of the revision of the Constitution. Does this mean that Renamo will present the 33 articles for revision?

[Dhlakama] There is no doubt these articles will be included. There is no need to review some of the articles because of the creation of certain mechanisms that favor democracy. I must add, however, that most of the articles will be discussed. The revision of the Constitution must not be viewed as the country's demand, not just Renamo's demand.

[Baloi] Some politicians question what they see as a concentration of power in the presidency. What do you think?

[Dhlakama] I agree with them, but I know that if things go well, I will be president of Mozambique in five years. We need to reduce some of the powers of the president. For example, the president appoints the attorney general and the Supreme Court president. There can be no justice, because all powers are vested in Frelimo. No matter how good your lawyer is, you can still be sentenced to 20 years in jail if the president of the Republic decides so.

We must have some kind of supreme magistrates' council to elect judges to this post. All the powers are currently held by Frelimo. No one can arrest a minister, even though we know very well that they are all involved in drugs, corruption, and so on. We know this.

[Baloi] So you are saying that the judicial system is not independent?

[Dhlakama] We must separate the judicial system from the executive system. The mixing of the two only makes the courts dependent on the government. People can be tried and found guilty simply because they cannot provide a defense.

[Baloi] We have reviewed the relationship between the judicial system and the president. Now let us examine the relationship between the president and the government. How should the Constitution view this relationship?

[Dhlakama] We need to see some changes in the Constitution. On what basis does the president appoint the prime minister? There can be two ways. We could have a president who is also the head of the government. which means we would not need a prime minister. This is called the presidential system. We could also have a prime minister as head of the government. This prime minister must be elected and represents the party that wins the legislative elections. Everything is mixed up in our country. We have a presidential system, but the president appoints a prime minister. In the United States, for example, there is President Bill Clinton and no prime minister. The Constitution must clarify this. In the United States, the president is elected. There is no prime minister, and the president is the head of the government. The alternative is to have a prime minister who is the head of the government and comes from the winning party. This is called a semipresidential system.

[Baloi] You talk about two systems, but you have not said which one is the best for Mozambique.

[Dhlakama] It is not easy to say which system is the best for us, because the two systems are complicated. In a presidential system, the president assumes all of the responsibility. He is the father of the nation. If we opt for this system, it means that whoever wins the elections must assume all of the responsibility, and that is not easy. You ask me which system is best... there is no power-struggle in this case. A candidate defines his program and is elected president. When there is a prime minister, there is a division of power. The prime minister and the president can even come from different parties, and sometimes they criticize each other.... But the question is what I think about these two systems....

[Baloi] Considering that we are in Mozambique and the leading political forces are Frelimo and Renamo....

[Dhlakama] It is a very difficult question. We need to consider that we are in Africa, where the semipresidential system has become a headache. Even in Portugal, we see rows between Mario Soares and Cavaco Silva. But this is sometimes good, because they keep each other in check. When a leader is alone, there is a tendency for him to fall asleep because his power is absolute. But, as I said before, it is a difficult question. The person who is in power must not believe he can monopolize

everything. There must be an opposition to monitor the mistakes.

I believe, however, that since we have a presidential system, even though, there is a minister who assists the president, this system can be maintained.

[Baloi] You then advocate the present system but without a Prime Minister...

[Dhlakama] Yes, because the Prime Minister must be elected. If we want to maintain a Prime Minister, then we must introduce a semi presidential system...that is my view. I must point out, however, that I favor both systems, provided they are well applied. Now, we have a Prime Minister who was not elected. If Renamo had won elections, we could be without a Prime Minister!

If during the debate, parliamentarians favor a semi presidential system, then it is fine. The Prime Minister must come from the party that wins legislative elections. If they favor a presidential system, it is also fine but there should be no Prime Minister.

[Baloi] You are a strong presidential candidate for the 1999 elections. What system would you have preferred if you won?

[Dhlakama] Well, a semipresidential system.

[Baloi] What do you think should be the relationship between the president of the Republic and the Assembly of the Republic?

[Dhlakama] You have hit the nail on the head...up till now here in Mozambique, the president is the overall boss. He is the general. Things must change. Parliamentarians repesent the Mozambican people and they enact laws. The government governs and the parliament monitors whether the laws are implemented. If there is any diversion, the parliament criticizes the government. There are various things in the country's life that cannot be exclusively decided upon by the governnment. For example, the decision to send troops to operate in a foreign country, as was the case in the past when troops were sent to Uganda to expel Idi Amin from Tazania, cannot come from the government alone. There, there was no consultation. It is not known how many Mozambicans died and what was the justification? It was all based on the friendship between Tanzania and Frelimo.

There are many other examples. Frelimo was the overall boss. There was a dictatorship. Now, things must be decided by parliament. The head of state can present his arguments but it is the people's representatives who must decide.

[Baloi] But the president of the Republic is the commander in chief of the Armed Forces...

[Dhlakama] That does not mean, however, that he has the right to order troops to cross the border. The president of the Republic is the commander in chief within the national territory. The decision to send troops to war in another country must come from parliament...

[Baloi] You are also of the view that the president of the Republic cannot declare war against other states?

[Dhlakama] The head of state is free to have all kinds of initiatives. The only thing is that these initiatives must be presented to parliament and that is how I see the issue of declaration of war. That is how things work in all democracies worldwide. As a matter of fact, at times, the head of state negotiates with parliament. He lobbies [preceding word in English] to have proposals approved. We must view this issue very seriously here in Mozambique. The head of state does whatever he likes. For example, he signed an agreement with President Mandela for South African farmers to come to Mozambique. Whom did he consult? It was not difficult to submit the draft accord to parliament before signing it. That is what is done in a democratic regime. The head of state comes from a party. What about if another party wins elections in the country and gives the farmers 24 hours to leave the country? That is not good, is it? Whom did he consult to join the Commonwealth? It is not Frelimo that is going to be a member of the Commonwealth but the entire country!

[Baloi] The other power that the president of the Republic has over parliament is the power to dissolve it. What do you think of that?

[Dhlakama] This power exists in many countries, but we are in Africa and our continent is still not the best example of democracy. I think, however, that it depends on circumstances...

[Baloi] In the case of Mozambique?

[Dhlakama] This power must be carefully watched. It is possible for the head of state to think of something that has nothing to do with national interests and decide to dissolve parliament. That is negative. The head of state could however exercise this power in situations which endanger democracy and the country's stability. I would agree with that, but he must immediately convene early elections.

It would be wrong for the president of the Republic to wake up one morning and decide to dissolve the parliament. The power must be exercised on the basis of national interest, stability, and national harmony, to safeguard the country!

[Baloi] One of the most controversial issues regarding the increasing crime rate in the country is whether the death penalty should be introduced. What is your view on this?

[Dhlakama] I do not believe people commit crimes because they know that they will not be sentenced to death if they appear before the courts. We should not confuse the total disorganization of this country with the death penalty issue. Crime in this country is practically committed by the security personnel. If we introduce the death penalty as a way to curb crime a dozen people will be executed daily in the country. I know that in some European democratic countries people are executed from time to time, but this is not included in the constitution.

[Baloi] So, you favor a noninstitutionalized death penalty?

[Dhlakama] Even in the United States when a spy or anyone acting against the interests of the nation is caught, he is executed. However, I do not agree with the view that if we reintroduce the death penalty we will reduce the crime rate. Crime is not propelled by lack of the death penalty. It is a part of the life of a community. It is because of hunger, unemployment, and so on. But in the case of Mozambique, the police are involved in crime. I have been told that in Chokwe, Mabalane, and Guija policemen at night take off their uniforms and pistols and hand them over to their boys to go about committing crimes. I believe the problem here is the lack of a state administration policy. The policeman's salary is so little that he is compelled to steal, but when he is caught the state protects him. At times they catch an innocent citizen who is sentenced to 20 years in prison.

[Baloi] In brief, you are saying that you favor the reintroduction of the death penalty for crimes hindering the higher interests of the state...

[Dhlakama] I am not saying that I favor it. I was giving an example of cases which are even discussed in parliament, cases in which deputies discuss the issue and reach an agreement on what should be done, for instance, life imprisonment. I am not in favor of the death penalty, I am just commenting about it.

[Baloi] So, how should we view your comments in terms of judicial mechanisms in the constitution?

[Dhlakama] This is an issue that should be studied...

[Baloi] The constitution is clear and says that in Mozambique there is no death penalty...

[Dhlakama] But there is the death penalty!

[Baloi] I mean, in legal terms, no one can appear in court and be sentenced to death!

[Dhlakama] But in this country there is the death penalty, since people are detained and executed, only this has not been legalized. At the time when the death sentenced was legalized everyone knew when someone was executed, but today, people are still being executed, only this is not included in the constitution. However, Frelimo is still killing people...

[Baloi] So, this should be legalized?

[Dhlakama] There is no need to legalize the death penalty. All I am saying is that mechanisms should be created to avoid an illegal death penalty.

[Baioi] Is not having an illegal death penalty the same as having a legal death penalty?

[Dhlakama] No, mechanisms should be created in this regard! I am not a jurist. I am a politician and I believe this issue needs lengthy consideration. I still believe that there are cases which should be decided by parliament, however, I am against the official and the illegal death penalty.

[Baloi] What do you favor then?

[Dhlakama] The creation of mechanisms to reduce crime, because if the death penalty is reintroduced many policemen will be executed.

[Baloi] Mozambique's constitution stipulates that land is the state's property and cannot be sold, however, many people say...

[Dhlakama] I am also against this policy...First of all we have to understand what is meant by state. It is a set of several organs recognized by the constitution. The state institutions do not own land since land is part of the country. But who tills it? The person who develops it must be its owner. I am against the idea of land being a state property. Of course, some areas should belong to the state, but the state should have a land privatization policy. For instance, if I want 50,000 hectars of land in Zambezia Province, the constitution should award me the right to own it, and if I die my children and grandchildren should own it, and so on. Only thus can I dedicate myself to the development of that land with all my strength, otherwise the state can claim the land at any time.

[Baloi] But there are those who say that this policy will not protect the true owners of the land, the peasants, since land may be sold to capitalists and the population will have poor land...

[Dhlakama] What is happening today is wrong since I cannot acquire good land. If I apply to buy land for

cultivation, the government will not grant it, but if a foreigner applies for land they will give it to him. I was in Gaza and spoke to people of the Changane tribe who are complaining that their land has been allocated to Portuguese nationals who are producing cotton for exportation which is not benefiting the population. This is happening because land belongs to the state otherwise no one would leave the area.

[Baloi] This means that land may be sold to Mozambicans, not foreigners...

[Dhlakama] I don't agree with the idea of foreigners buying land in Mozambique. They should have exportation contracts for a specific extendible period. Mozambicans should have the right to be owners of the land they cultivate.

Dhlakama on Growing 'Unhappiness' Within Renamo

MB1809143095 Maputo DOMINGO in Portuguese 10 Sep 95 pp 2-3

[Report on interview with Renamo leader Afonso Dhlakama by correspondent Ramos Miguel; place and date not given]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama has not excluded the possibility that "a second Dhlakama could emerge soon and might undermine the peace in this country. People might think I am exaggerating. I am very thin, but I am not ill. Sometimes, food is put on the table, but I do not feel like eating because of the many problems I have to deal with every day. Our members are squeezing us." [passage omitted]

Dhlakama told DOMINGO there is great unhappiness among Renamo members. This was confirmed by several party militants, who described Renamo's financial situation as extremely dire.

The Renamo leader says he has warned time and again that "if something serious happens, I do not want the Mozambican people, the Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo], and the international community to blame me. I have done everything I can, but there are limits. I have even put my life at risk."

Dhlakama puts most of the blame for his party's financial crisis on Frelimo and the international community, alleging that "Frelimo is pursuing a strategy to eliminate Renamo by 1997. Our members are very concerned about this."

The Renamo leader said: "I am afraid that this will not just harm me alone. It will also harm the country. I do not need to go to war, but perhaps there is another

Dhlakama waiting in the wings who will come forward and say that I am stupid, and he will blow the whole thing to ?mithereens. I cannot rule out that at all." [passage omitted]

DOMINGO asked: What do you think will happen if you cannot end the unhappiness among your members?

"The politicians in my party believe that Frelimo and the international community are playing around with us. I have tried to be a nice guy. I have tried to be a real friend to the Europeans in the name of democracy. I feel there is great unhappiness within my party. Given that the party members are my colleagues, not my sons, I feel I am being challenged more and more, so there is every possibility that some of these members will say I am a nobody and no longer able to influence people. It is impossible to have discipline when your stomach is empty. Our situation is quite dire," Dhlakama said. [passage omitted]

The Renamo leader has been under pressure from other sources, as well. South African and Portuguese creditors, in particular, have demanded to be paid for their work during Renamo's electoral campaign last year.

Dhlakama said he does not wish to talk about figures. "That is not a good thing," he stressed. However, we have information that Renamo ran up a \$5 million debt during the electoral process. [passage omitted]

New Land Policy Allows for Transfer of Titles

MB1809141895 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network in Portuguese 1800 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The new land policy, which was approved by the government last week, makes it possible to transfer land titles between citizens or from a foreigner to a citizen. Agriculture and Fisheries Minister Carlos do Rosario said that, according to the new policy, land is classified into four different categories: A, B, C, and D. Category A — in which land disputes are frequent — deals with commercial land; category B deals with land owned by families; category C deals with land that the state sets aside for specific purposes; and category D deals with land that is difficult to access. The principle that land is state-owned still prevails. [passage omitted]

Guinea

Foreign Minister Admits Soldiers Killed by RUF

AB1809204595 London BBC World Service in English 1830 GMT 18 Sep 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Last week on this program, we reported claims by the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebels that they had killed a number of government troops during a clash in Madina in the northern Sierra Leonean district of Makeni, among them seven soldiers from Guinea. A contingent from Guinea has been stationed in Sierra Leone throughout the four years. Well today, the authorities in Conakry admitted, for the first time ever, that they had, in fact, lost some men. Our correspondent, Foday Fofana, telexed this report:

Speaking at a well-attended press conference, the foreign minister, Mr. Kebe Zoumanigui, confirmed that seven Guinean soldiers had been killed by the RUF, but he declined to say in what circumstances they died. This is a military matter and I have never been a military man, the minister said in response to my question. A local reporter asked the foreign minister whether it was not unusual for a country claiming to be searching for peace in Sierra Leone to have its troops fighting alongside government soldiers there. Mr. Zoumanigui replied: We are not an occupation force. In the framework of the Mano River Union, we have a joint defense pact. While we assist them militarily, we encourage them to engage in dialogue with the rebels.

The minister then answered questions on reports of a recent border clash with the Ivory Coast [Cote d'Ivoire]; and here it was obvious that he was keen to play down the matter. He said: What I discussed recently with my Ivorian counterpart, Mr. Amara Essy, was that we have to be precise over our borderlines, because the trees and blocks that marked the borders in colonial times had disappeared. Mr. Kebe Zoumanigui cited the case of the border town of (Koronmale) in the Republic of Mali, which he said he recently visited. There I found out, said the minister, that the Guinean border post commander had his latrine in Malian territory.

Nigeria

Dissident Saro-Wiwa Begins New Hunger Strike

AB1809222995 Paris AFP in English 2107 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Sept 19 (AFP) — The Nigerian dissident writer Ken Saro-Wiwa, 53, began a new hunger strike Monday [18 September] in protest at murder charges levelled against him and the inhuman conditions of his detention, sources close to him said.

It is the second time Saro-Wiwa, a former president of the Association of Nigerian Writers, has gone on hunger strike since he was arrested in May 1994.

Saro-Wiwa, who suffers from heart problems, is being held with chains around his feet and wrists in a secret location, sources said.

President of the Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People (MOSOP), Saro-Wiwa is accused of murdering four high ranking Ogonis in Rivers State, southern Nigeria.

He is being tried for the the murders with 30 other leaders of MOSOP before a special court convened by the military regime in Port-Harcourt.

Saro-Wiwa and his colleagues say they are innocent of the crimes and allege that their trial is aimed at suppressing their political views.

Judge Ibrahim Auta said during the last session on September 13 that documents in the hands of the court proved their guilt.

MOSOP has been fighting for the rights of the indigeneous 550,000-strong Ogoni people in oil-rich Rivers State.

They are claiming a share of the revenue, accusing oil companies of plundering their homeland.

Finance Minister on 'Gains' Reviving Economy

AB1809215095 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 18 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] There is no doubt. Some economic watchers say that the greatest challenge faced by the present administration is in the area of resuscitating the country's economy. That may well be the area in which the administration has made its greatest gains.

With its carefully crafted budget of revival, the 1995 budget is, perhaps, the most faithfully implemented annual budget of the Federal Government in recent years. In a period of only three months, the administration effectively curbed government's legendary extravagance and the seeming insatiable desire to create money. The administration is also making impressive gains in its revenue drive, and has successfully restored sanity in the finance sector of the economy.

[Begin Finance Minister Anthony Ani recording; not identified in report or onscreen] Coming to the budget itself, we have got a substantial improvement in the budgetary performance. The deficit has been reduced from 7.7 percent GDP [gross domestic product] in 1994 to about 1.35 percent GDP in 1995 — if we discount the Central Bank charges — but if we don't discount,

it comes to about 3 percent GDP, which is a serious improvement. The collectible oil revenue improved by 14 percent over the same period of last year, and the revenue from other sources like customs duties, income tax, VAT [value-added tax] improved by 43.9 percent; and the overall deficit has been controlled. There has not been extrabudgetary expenditure. We have been able to mobilize funds and put funds in the right places for improvement, and we think that we are now in a better position to move forward toward creation of jobs, toward diversifying into the other areas, and then fine tune the economy for a leap forward. [end recording]

Central Bank Takes Over 17 'Problem' Banks

AB1509163095 Paris AFP in English 1546 GMT 15 Sep 95

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, Sept 15 (AFP) — The Nigerian Central Bank has taken over management of 17 Nigerian commercial banks because of their poor management and the deterioration of their financial situation, Central Bank Governor Paul Ogunwa announced in Lagos on Friday [15 September].

He told correspondents that the move had been made with the approval of Chief of State General Sani Abacha and "in the public interest".

He said the Central Bank's intervention had become necessary because the banks' owners had not taken the steps required to restore the situation in spite of repeated admonitions from the Central Bank.

The 17 banks' Boards of Directors have been dissolved and the banks will be under provisional management by a directorate consisting of competent Central Bank staffers designated by it, Ogunwa said.

The banks' stockholders will have 30 days to reestablish the financial situation, failing which the Central Bank will have to take such steps as selling the establishments to "persons or groups of persons" meeting the Central Bank's management criteria.

Ogunwa said the managers and stockholders of the banks in question and any person having debts to the problem banks must regularize their position quickly or face legal proceedings.

Here is a list of the 17 banks taken over by the Central Bank, in the order given by the governor:

1.	Progress Bank of Nigeria (Public Limited Company, Plc).	
2.	North-South Bank (Nigeria, Plc).	
3.	Nigeria Universal Bank Limited (Ltd).	
4.	First African Trust Bank Ltd.	
5.	Amicable Bank of Nigeria Ltd.	
6.	Premier Commercial Bank Plc.	
7.	Lobi Bank of Nigeria Ltd.	
8.	Credite Bank Nigeria Ltd.	
9.	Ivory Merchant Bank Nigeria Ltd.	
10.	Century Merchant Bank Ltd.	
11.	Prime Merchant Bank Ltd.	
12.	Abacus Merchant Bank Ltd.	
13.	Group Merchant Bank Ltd.	
14.	Victory Merchant Bank Ltd.	
15.	Merchant Bank of Africa Ltd.	
16.	Nationwide Merchant Bank Ltd.	
17.	Great Merchant Bank Ltd.	

On Thursday, the Central Bank dissolved the Board of Directors of another bank, Savannah Bank, because the quarrels among its members had interfered with proper management of the establishment, the Central Bank said.

Paper on Economic Trends, Investment

MS1809105495 London FINANCIAL TIMES in English 18 Sep 95 p 25

[Report by Paul Adams: "The Curtain Rises On Nigeria"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos — Nigeria's stock market is emerging as one of the top performers this year and the market is gearing up for foreign investment after two decades in the doldrums.

The Nigerian stock market All-Share index has doubled from 2,205 at start of this year to 4,400 in early September. In the first eight months equities increased in value by 105 per cent in dollar terms, helped by a steady exchange rate. Although the economy is in recession and previously sound companies are struggling to stay in business, the rise in share prices coincides with unprecedented interest from both domestic and offshore investors.

A partial devaluation of the naira at the start of the year, inflation of over 80 per cent, negative interest rates and fears of bank failure have persuaded many Nigerians that the stock market is the best place for their savings. Strong 1994 profits announced during the first half of this year have further boosted prices. Some good mid-1995 results are likely to sustain interest.

The military regime has recently removed exchange controls and limits on foreign ownership, and cleared the way for multi-nationals to regain control of their Nigerian operations and for portfolio investors venturing into new territory. Over the next few months some of these multinationals will take advantage of the new decree to acquire a controlling interest through block deals with Nigerian investors.

Although the average p/e ratio has doubled from 5 to 10 this year, many offshore funds believe that equities are still cheap. The best quoted companies are well managed and many are partly owned by multinationals, especially in the consumer industries sector. There has already been one deal by an offshore fund manager, a Nigerian has set up an investment fund in New York and a leading offshore investment group is due to set up a fund to buy into the Nigerian market.

"If they stick with quality, investors will not go far wrong: blue chips remain fundamentally under-valued. Some lower quality stocks may have been pushed up too much and we could see a correction," says Mr Bolaje Balogun of City Securities, a leading Lagos broker. But there is a catch: turnover is tiny and there is not enough stock for new investors.

"For return on investment this market is in the top 10," says Mr Hayford Alile, director general of the Nigerian stock exchange. "The area that concerns us most is the supply side for investors. There are not enough shares for sale."

The market, in relation to the economy, is very small. The stock exchange has six trading floors, of which Lagos is the largest, and with 180 listed companies it has more stocks than most African markets but at the end of July total market capitalisation was \$1.6bn, a mere 60 per cent of the value of Ashanti Goldfields, which is

quoted on the neighbouring Ghana stock exchange, yet Nigeria's population and GDP are about 10 times the size of Ghana.

The need for Nigerian industry over the next few years to raise substantial capital for modernising plants will be one important source of new issues. The other source is in the hands of government through privatisation, which the government has suspended, but the World Bank is urging it to re-start. The 10 largest companies in Nigeria are not quoted: they are either parastatals or the local subsidiaries of the big oil companies. If floated, the state communications company, Nitel, would alone double the market's capitalisation, say investment analysts.

If equity in the oil industry, which accounts for over 90 per cent of foreign earnings, were available the effect would be even greater. The joint ventures which produce its 2m barrels of oil a day are 40 per cent owned by multinationals, led by Shell. The rest is owned by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, which is under pressure from creditors to divest equity.

Mr Wale Edun of Denham Management, a Lagos based investment group, believes that if the government can manage economic stability the demand for stock will create a supply. "If you have dollars waiting on the sidelines that will push up share prices and make equity issues a cheap way to raise capital."

"There is a lack of depth and volume in the market" says Mr Balogun of CSL [expansion unknown]. "Some 54 per cent of the market is owned by foreign companies who rarely or never trade their shares. Another 20 to 30 per cent is owned by Nigerian institutional investors who also mainly hold. Many Nigerians are almost culturally averse to selling shares."

New products are emerging in Nigeria in response to the greater interest. An income bond is soon to be launched by Lagos firm Hammilton Hammer, which will offer some of the advantages of an investment trust. "Not all the securities will be in quoted stocks, some will be in non-quoted securities or debt instruments. It will enable foreigners to invest here but also Nigerians to invest outside" explains its chairman Mr Femi Akinsanya.

There is also a gap in the market for good investment research, but in the next two weeks, for the first time, company level equity research will be available to subscribers from the Lagos firm Agusto & Co.

"We will be providing research and recommendations on 60 Nigerian quoted companies, chosen according to size, transparency, turnover and timeliness of reporting," says a spokesman for Agusto. But there are still impediments to trading, including an antiquated floor trading system which makes it difficult to carry out big block trades. The transactions costs are also among the highest in the world, around 9 per cent for large deals, not counting VAT [value added tax].

Some brokers are critical of the authorities' limit on daily price movements to 20k (just over 20 cents US) a day per share. "The reason for the limit is the lack of information for investors" says Mr George Akamiokhor of the securities and exchange commission (SEC), the overall regulator of the country's capital markets.

"We need more frequent returns from quoted companies to ensure that their figures conform with what is happening on the floor of the stock exchange. The accounts that some brokers are relying on are outdated. In July they were reacting to 1994 results. It is already there in the listing requirements: companies' accounts have to be ready within four weeks of the yearend and there should be quarterly returns.

"A new law is awaiting the approval of the head of state which will improve our surveillance and help us to enforce these things," he says. Improvements in the stock market are overdue, especially in transaction times and investment research. "There are areas where we see some difficulties for new investors, such as transfers and settlements," says Mr Hayford Alile, director-general of the Nigerian stock exchange. "But we are working towards a target of T+3, three days for the delivery of stock. We have commissioned a computer system from a company in Calgary, who have worked in other emerging markets, and we will start testing it later this year and should be up and running in the first quarter of 1996.

"It should also help with the custodian services, which overseas portfolio investors will need. We are talking to Stanbic Bank about custodian services."

As part of the Standard Bank of South Africa group, Stanbic has been able to satisfy the stringent requirements of the US Securities and Exchange Commission to act as a custodian in Africa for offshore investors.

SEC and the stock exchange also want to encourage non-equity securities, which make up only 9 Per cent of the market.

Business Centers Reportedly Defraud Patrons

AB1609200095 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 16 Sep 95

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] For some time now a major fraud originating in Nigeria has been fleecing foreign-

ers of money they thought was being put into a [word indistinct] profit-making scheme. It's been a huge embarrassment for the Nigerian Government, which has been trying to put a stop to it, but now it seems the fraudsters are themselves falling victim to a scam being operated by certain dodgy business centers in Lagos, offering telefax services. From Lagos, Sola Odunfa reports:

[Begin Odunfa recording] Business centers have now joined the large number of fraudulent businesses operating in Nigeria's commercial capital of Lagos. They collect money from people to fax their documents abroad but unknown to their customers, they only send the messages to local addresses. By this, they make extra profit from the large difference between the tariff for local and international calls.

Early this week, they caught in their net certain fraudsters seeking to dupe unsuspecting businessmen abroad. Having collected the standard fees to send the fraudsters' documents to various companies in France, Germany, Russia, and Japan, the fraudulent business centers faxed the messages to a Lagos address. Unfortunately, the Lagos address was that of the government-controlled DAILY TIMES newspaper, and the paper exposed the double scam today.

The fraudulent letters were typed on supposed letter headings of the Central Bank of Nigeria in Lagos, the Presidency in Abuja, and the Federal Ministry of Justice in Lagos. Almost all the letters spoke of approval for payment for contracts said to have been awarded by government. The advance fee fraud men requested the intended victims to send various amounts denominated in foreign currencies for processing of the payment papers. The government departments have all denied knowledge of the said payments. They said that both the letter headings and the messages were forgeries. Victims of the fax fraud are not all fraudulent people. Some of them are students seeking admission into universities abroad. [end recording]

Government To Liquidate National Shipping Line

AB1509193595 Lagos NEW NIGERIAN in English 30 Aug 95 pp 1,2

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Federal Government has decided to liquidate the Nigerian National Shipping Line (NNSL).

The liquidation which will involve all assets of the company, both local and foreign, will be gradual and thorough.

Addressing newsmen at a forum in Lagos, the Minister of Transport, Major-General Ibrahim Gumel, said the

measure was necessary to wash off the NNSL stigma from Nigerian ships, so that they would not be seized as soon as they moved into the waters of the nation's creditors.

He explained that while the liquidation is taking place government planned to float another shipping line for the country.

The exercise, he noted would be handled by the National Maritime Authority, while shares of the new company would be sold to all willing Nigerians.

Major-General Gumel pointed out that it was necessary to sell shares to the public in order to guide against its collapse, as shareholders would be made to have a sense of belonging and monitor closely the activities of the shipping company.

Government shares in the new outfit, he said, would be minimal.

The transport minister disclosed that though NMA would float the company by financing it and ensuring its take-off, it would later hands off the management. He further explained that the role of NMA would only be "that of a midwife who only assists in the delivery of a baby but not the owner."

Major-General Gumel said government would bring in somebody to handle the affairs of the ailing national carrier towards its liquidation because its present sole administrator had been indisposed.

On the fate of the staff of NNSL, especially those with outstanding arrears of salaries, the minister said those owed would be fully paid.

He revealed that the maritime authority was making arrangements to be lifting fertilizer while an international approval had also been secured for indigenous vessels to lift crude oil.

He summarised the major advantages of the new shipping venture to include an opening for a jointly owned shipping line, where the public could have shares and monitor its activities to prevent it from collapse, possessing ships flying Nigerian flags, while the company would be christened with a new name to vest off the stigma of NNSL on our indigenous ships.

Answering a question, the minister disclosed that about 50 percent of the fund needed to dredge the Calabar ports had been received from the federal government.

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